

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

### **Listing of claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A switching device for the connection of a conductor via a ring terminal, comprising:

a preassembled component including a holder and a screw-with-washer assembly, the a screw-with-washer assembly being held by the holder and forming, together with a connection piece, a clamping point for the conductor connection via the ring terminal, the holder being movable linearly between an open and a closed state of the clamping point and including a spring element applied to the holder, which holds the holder in the open state when the clamping point is released.

2. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the component is not provided with a cover.

3. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the component is guided and held via guide grooves during assembly.

4. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the complete clamping device is in the form of a module, the switching device being plugged on, and the spring element being prestressed over a narrow point in the switching device.

5. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the component is guided and held via guide grooves during assembly.

6. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the complete clamping device is in the form of a module, the switching device being plugged on, and the spring element being prestressed over a narrow point in the switching device.

7. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the complete clamping device is in the form of a module, the switching device being plugged on, and the spring element being prestressed over a narrow point in the switching device.

8. (New) A switching device for the connection of a conductor via a ring terminal, comprising:

a housing supporting a connection piece; and

a holder supporting a screw-with-washer assembly;

wherein the holder is mounted on the housing for linear movement between

an open state in which the screw-with-washer assembly is spaced apart from the connection piece, and

a closed state in which the screw-with-washer assembly is screw coupled to the connection piece.